

our Nation, including numerous shipments of naval spent fuel and foreign research reactor fuel.

In fact, in these pictures behind me it illustrates the means by which shipments of foreign-generated fuel are being transported to the Department of Energy's Savannah River facility. The safety record of these shipments speaks for itself.

They come into the Port of Charleston, SC. They are loaded off the ships and on to rail cars, and then transported to Savannah River. That is 2,400 shipments. And they have all been completed safely. And I think, again, the safety record of these shipments speaks for itself.

Again, this is spent fuel that is already being shipped across the United States, so it is no longer a question of technology but becomes one of politics.

Even so, modifications have been made to this legislation to further ensure that all spent fuel will be transported safely.

Mr. President, for too long our States, our ratepayers and taxpayers, have been threatened by a policy, again, one of inaction. As passed out of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee, this legislation sets up a reasonable deadline for the DOE to finally live up to its promises. We cannot, in good conscience, delay that deadline any further. It is unreasonable to ask the taxpayers to sacrifice any further for a department that has failed—a department that has failed—to do its job.

So I am here today also to urge my colleagues to take a giant step forward in moving this legislation closer to Senate passage by voting for cloture and allowing the bill to be debated.

Again, this is not a question of science. It is not a question of technology. And I do not believe it is a question of safety in transportation. But it has become a plain question of politics. Will the political decisions be made to allow this bill and the solving of this problem to go forward? I think this bill is the first step in that direction. As I said, I urge my colleagues to support this.

I want to thank you, Mr. President, very much.

I yield the floor.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PRIVILEGES OF THE FLOOR

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent during the duration of the consideration of S. 104 that floor privileges be extended to two more members of my staff, Jean Neal and Andy Vermilye.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BRYAN. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CLOTURE MOTION

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I send a second cloture motion to the desk on the pending motion to proceed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The cloture motion having been presented under rule XXII, the Chair directs the clerk to read the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, do hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to S. 104, a bill to amend the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982.

Trent Lott, Larry Craig, John Ashcroft, Dan Coats, Tim Hutchinson, Sam Brownback, Mitch McConnell, Conrad Burns, Frank H. Murkowski, Jon Kyl, Connie Mack, Spencer Abraham, Chuck Hagel, John McCain, Don Nickles, Gordon Smith.

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, it is my understanding that under rule XXII this cloture vote would occur on Wednesday morning. It is my hope cloture will be invoked on Tuesday and therefore this vote would not be necessary. However, if cloture is not invoked tomorrow, I will notify all Members as to when the second cloture vote can be expected.

Mr. President, I now ask unanimous consent that the mandatory live quorum be waived.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. NICKLES. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that there now be a period for the transaction of morning business with Senators permitted to speak for up to 5 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

TARTAN DAY

Mr. LOTT. Mr. President, as a result of the recent recess of the U.S. Senate, I did not get the opportunity to come to the Senate floor and recognize Sunday, April 6, 1997, as Tartan Day. This day is set aside to honor the millions of Scottish-Americans who have made outstanding contributions to our great country.

This date has a special significance for all those of Scottish heritage. It is the 677th anniversary of the Declaration of Arbroath—the Scottish Declaration of Independence which was signed on April 6, 1320.

This declaration of independence includes these inspirational lines: “* * * we fight not for glory, nor riches, nor honors, but for freedom alone, which no good man gives up, except with his life.”

Mr. President, Scottish-Americans have left their mark as pioneers and innovators in the fields of science, technology, medicine, government, politics, economics, architecture, literature, the media, and the visual and performing arts. Their contributions to the history and development of the United States are invaluable.

Some of these great past and present Scottish-Americans include: Neil Armstrong, Alexander Graham Bell, Andrew Carnegie, Julia Child, Hugh Downs, Thomas Alva Edison, Malcolm S. Forbes, Katherine Hepburn, Billy Graham, Brit Hume, Washington Irving, Robert MacNeil, William Holmes McGuffey, Andrew Mellon, Samuel B. Morse, Grandma Moses, James Naismith, Edgar Allen Poe, Willard Scott, Robert Louis Stevenson, Gilbert Stuart, Elizabeth Taylor, and James McNeil Whistler just to mention a few.

Mr. President. Almost 11 percent of all the Nobel Prizes awarded have gone to people of Scottish ancestry.

Mr. President. A Tartan provides an instant recognition of a family and its kinship.

By recognizing Tartan Day we are commemorating all that is best in Scottish heritage. I believe it is important for the Senate to pause, even if it is belated, and to recognize Tartan Day. I firmly believe it will further emphasize the many Scottish contributions to the growth and development of the United States.

Mr. President. As I look around the Senate Chamber I see many who can claim Scottish ancestry. I see my colleague and friend, JOHN MCCAIN. His family ancestry and my mother's actually goes back to four Scottish families who migrated to Carroll County, MS, back in the 1830's. I see others in this Chamber—JUDD GREGG and KAY BAILEY HUTCHISON, and there are many more. Every day the Scottish in this Chamber live by the words in the Declaration of Arbroath that I quoted—they are here to advance freedom.

Mr. President. When our Nation was founded, almost half of the signers of America's Declaration of Independence were of Scottish descent. Throughout the history of our country three-fourths of our Presidents have been of Scottish ancestry. This tells me that despite the fact they are few in number, Scots tend to take seriously the word from the Declaration of Arbroath.

Many organizations were involved in making the observance of Tartan Day on April 6 a success. There are clan societies, clubs, and fraternal associations and individual Scots-Americans representing literally millions of